



Actor Ed Waterstreet, left, works with students in the Summer Theatre Institute now in progress at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf.

## School network receives funding for writing project

The Office of Special Education and Rehabilitation Services has awarded a \$365,000 research grant to be used for a writing improvement project that will benefit hearing impaired ninth and tenth graders.

The grant was awarded to the National Research to Development Public School Network, a national network of 16 secondary public school programs with services for hearing impaired students.

The core of the network is a four-year study of this year's ninth and tenth graders supported by the Gallaudet Research Institute as part of its ongoing programs of research.

The grant will support a three-year teacher training, instructional innovation and evaluation project. The project was defined by school administrators last July, and preparation of curricular and teacher training materials has already begun. The research grant will also provide for a series of teacher training workshops to be held at Gallaudet this fall.

The network got off the ground during the summer of 1986. President Jerry Lee and Provost Catherine Ingold attended this initial meeting. Subsequently, a Presidential Award was given to Dr. Tom Kluwin of the Research Institute to continue the relationship between Gallaudet and the public school programs.

Kluwin addressed participants at this year's annual meeting, held on campus July 16 and 17. Another project under discussion at the meeting was the social and emotional adjustment of hearing impaired students in public school programs. Several activities are already under way in relation to this issue.

## First Theatre Institute held here

"A taste of many different kinds of theater," is how actor Andy Vasnik briefly described the Summer Theatre Institute being held for the first time at the Model Secondary School for the Deaf.

But much more is available to the 13 deaf and three hearing students, ages 15-19, who came to the campus July 19 to attend the two-week program. The institute is jointly sponsored by MSSD and The National Theatre of the Deaf (NTD) and coordinated by Betsy Meynardie, MSSD counselor.

"The institute offers opportunities for interested young people to see just what kind of theater work they want to do, and a chance to work with students of various backgrounds and communication methods," continued Vasnik, ac-

tor and director of NTD's Professional Theatre School. Vasnik is the artistic director of the summer institute.

Bernard Bragg, Gallaudet artist in residence and one of NTD's founders, teaches "Acting and Artistic Sign Language," which includes training theories developed by Bragg such as the cinematic nature of American Sign Language and the "visual vernacular" of mime.

"MSSD is the best place to begin the program because it is a model for other schools to emulate," said Bragg. "Too many educators see the arts as superficial when, actually, the arts are aspects of social studies, history, English and other curriculum staples. Participation in theatrical events helps students know who they are and visualize the possibilities of what they can become."

NTD actor Ed Waterstreet, who may be best known for his role as Abel Ryder in last year's Hallmark Hall of Fame television production of "Love Is Never Silent," conducts a theater lab.

"Movement for the Actor" is the name of a course taught by Jyl Hewston, a performer with the Plexus Theatre. This group has conducted classes each semester at MSSD in preparation for the Performing Arts Department's productions.

Yola Rosynek, MSSD dance instructor, is teaching "Movement and Dance," and Shanny Mow, actor and director of NTD's Deaf Playwright conference, is teaching "Play Structure."

Visiting artists include theater notables Linda Bove and Sandi Inches.



From left, Astrid Goodstein and Nancy Swaiko work with Reading Clinic students, using articles from USA Today and other publications.

## Reading Clinic motivates students, provides training

"Whether youngsters are deaf or hearing, they read what they are motivated to read," said Dr. Carol LaSasso, founder and director of the Gallaudet Reading Clinic. "An outcome of the reading clinic is increased motivation to read—to enjoy reading as a leisure-time activity and, consequently, to become willing readers in their regular educational programs."

The five-week Gallaudet Reading Clinic, now in its seventh year, opened June 29. The 30 students ages 8 to 19 enrolled this summer attend the clinic from 9 a.m. to noon Mondays through Thursdays in KDES.

The program provides training for teachers in diagnosis and remediation of reading difficulties of hearing impaired students and training for supervisors to implement similar reading programs in their own schools. It also offers parent education by means of weekly seminars; an extensive post-clinic report is prepared for each child.

Participating teachers (called clinicians) and supervisors attending the clinic are involved in educational programs for hearing impaired students across the country. The clinicians are receiving five graduate credits for their participation in the program.

During the first week, clinicians and supervisors test and diagnose each student's reading skills. Their analyses and interpretations of test results provide a basis for planning the remaining four weeks of intensive learning activities conducted in small group settings.

Most of the students attending the clinic are enrolled in Washington area educational programs. Two students are from California, two are from Ontario, Canada, and Illinois, one is from Maine and one is from Jamaica.

Nancy Swaiko, co-director of the Gallaudet clinic and teacher at the Maryland School for the Deaf, coordinates the staff of three supervisors who work with nine teacher-clinicians.

The clinicians' training also includes teaching strategies, testing, technical report writing and communicating effectively with parents.

Chic Welsh-Charrier, an English instructor at MSSD, is one of the supervisors, and Astrid Goodstein, chairperson of the Academic Advising Office, is a clinician. Other supervisors are Linda Forsberg, coordinator of hearing impaired programs in Grand Rapids, Mich. and Kathy Lovette, coordinator of cued speech programs in Fairfax County, Va.

In addition to the clinic on campus, LaSasso directs the satellite Reading Clinic at the American School for the Deaf that she established last summer. The ASD clinic, also sponsored by Gallaudet, is co-directed by ASD teacher MaryAnn Meehan.

LaSasso was recently given a Presidential Award to establish additional satellite reading clinics in each of the University's regional centers.

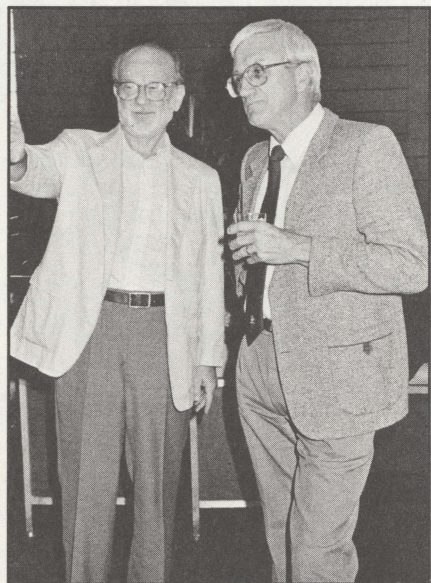


## Announcements

The traffic and identification area of the Department of Safety and Security will be closed the week of Aug. 3-9. Services in the area will resume on Aug. 10.

Programs in Adult and Community Education in coordination with Group Health Association (GHA), will present "Controlling High Blood Pressure" on Aug. 1 from 9 a.m. to noon at the West End Medical Center, 2121 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. The lecture is free to GHA members and \$5 for other participants. The registration deadline is July 29.

The National Health Care Foundation for the Deaf has two positions open for instructors to teach independent living skills to developmentally disabled, mentally retarded and multihandicapped deaf adults. Send letter and resume to Program Coordinator, Deaf-REACH, National Health Care Foundation for the Deaf, 3722 12th St. NE, Washington, DC 20017.



Visiting Australian scholar Dr. Desmond Power, right, talks with research consultant Dr. Harold Orlans at a reception held July 15 prior to Power's presentation "Deafness Down Under." Power, director of the Centre for Human Development Studies in Australia, is here to analyze data on communication skills among deaf children.



Marjorie Miller

## Miller speaks on parents and stress

Having a deaf child may be a source of stress in itself for hearing parents. But a greater degree of stress can come from the judgments of professionals about how the child should be treated, Dr. Marjorie Miller told a group of parents and professionals July 13.

Miller, coordinator of the Family Life Program in the National Academy, spoke on the topic of "Parenting and Decision Making: Stress and Solutions" in Ely Auditorium. The address was the last in the series of Family Life Lectures.

She solicited input from her audience to define stress, which includes frustration, anger, anxiety, tension, depression and grieving.

Denial is a strong source of stress, Miller told the group. However, professionals in the field say that parents are

denying their child's deafness if they seek out audiological help and speech therapy, a natural starting place for hearing parents.

Miller asked her audience about sources of frustration for parents, and people responded by saying that parents cannot communicate with their children, which causes frustration. Some members of the audience said parents were overprotective of their children; some said parents were neglectful.

"What have we done to the parents' stress level now?" Miller responded. "They're not overfocused; they're not neglectful. They are at various stages of learning what to do for their deaf child."

Professionals are "filled with the ability to judge parents" but have the opportunity to help them, said Miller. "How do we temper our opinions and listen to parents' needs for information?" she asked. Another major source of stress for parents of deaf children is that they are exposed to many conflicting opinions, Miller said.

Miller has received a Gallaudet Presidential Award, along with Dr. Anne Spragins, professor in the Psychology Department, to research facilitating deaf children's access to day care. Their goal is to develop a package to be distributed to parents and day care providers. Work on this project will begin in the fall.

## Enrollment office has new name

The Enrollment Management Office now has a new name: Office of Enrollment Services (OES).

The name change was approved recently by President Jerry Lee and Provost Catherine Ingold to more appropriately reflect the purpose of the office, which provides services to students, parents, faculty and other units of the University.

The offices of Admissions and Recruitment, Records Management and Financial Aid are a part of the Office of Enrollment Services.

The OES telephone number is x5484.

## Dying is like "the horse on the table"

The story about the horse on the table goes something like this:

A group of people goes to an elaborate dinner party. When they sit down to eat, they find a horse standing in the middle of the table.

Now this is very strange, but no one feels that it is appropriate to talk about the horse. So the dinner guests converse among themselves, peering around the horse to talk and reaching between the horse's legs to get the salt. No one acknowledges the horse in the middle of the table.

The topic of death is like the horse on the table, said Dr. Richard Meisegeier in a "Lecture on Aging" held in Ely Auditorium July 15.

"Most people don't want to talk about a relative or friend who is dying, but to avoid the situation is unrealistic," he said.

Speaking from a sociological perspective, Meisegeier, who is chairman of the Honors Program, told his audience that as a society we have rituals for handling death, but we have no fixed rituals for dying.

The subject is avoided from an early age, said Meisegeier. Even in children's stories and fairy tales, Grandma is saved from the wolf's stomach in "Little



Richard Meisegeier

Red Riding Hood" and Sleeping Beauty is not really dead.

Not addressing death directly causes confusion in children, he pointed out. "If you tell them that grandma has gone on a trip, why doesn't she come back? If you say she went to sleep, is it any wonder that a child might be afraid of going to sleep, too?"

Most people know when they are dying, whether or not they have been told, and most want to talk about it, he said. "By talking about it, the person who is dying can be very much in charge of his death."

Meisegeier spoke about the five stages of dying which have been delineated by Elisabeth Kubler-Ross. Although the stages may not occur in a neat order, most dying people go through periods of denial, anger, bargaining, depression and acceptance.

In the fourth stage, depression manifests itself in two ways. Reactive depression usually occurs in response to unresolved business, Meisegeier said, and friends and family can help by providing reassurance. Preparatory depression occurs when people are coming to grips with the fact that they are going to die. "This is not the time to cheer someone up," said Meisegeier. "The best thing you can do is just be with them."

In the fifth stage, a person comes to an acceptance of death. Little by little, the person begins cutting things off. "You can't die with a lot of connections," Meisegeier said. Family and friends must also reach an acceptance, so the person can die in peace.

## You & Your Job

Many Gallaudet employees covered by the Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) are now facing the decision of whether or not to change to the new Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS).

The Mutual Life Insurance Company of New York (MONEY) is providing a free service to help make that decision easier.

Customized projections which detail the differences between the two systems are available through the company. Information on the projections includes the pension payments employees will receive at different retirement ages, the difference thrift plan contributions will make, how other assets will relate and how to get the greatest financial value from the plan chosen.

Employees must decide between CSRS and FERS by Dec. 31. Once the decision is made, it cannot be changed.

For more information about the MONEY projections, call Elvi M. Siitonen at 951-9300 voice or 951-9300 TDD and voice.

## on the GREEN

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**Editorial Director**  
Nancy Moore

**Editor**  
Vickie Walter

**Senior Writer**  
Mary Johnstone

**Editorial Assistant**  
Lynne McConnell

**Photographers**  
Chun Louie  
Patsy Lynch



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## Classified Ads

**FOR SALE:** American pitbull terrier, F, 9 mos. old, affectionate, knows signs, housebroken, must sell, \$200/BO. Contact Lasry, P.O. Box 952.

**FOR SALE:** '82 Chevy Celebrity, silver, 4-dr., 46K, 6 cyl. engine w/auto. trans., power steering and brakes, cruise control, AM/FM, new tires, good cond., \$4400. Call Karen, x5270 or 379-6520 (V) eves.

**FOR SALE:** \$100 Everglow kerosene heater dishwasher, 3-yr-old Kenmore portable dishwasher, \$100; Everglow kerosene heater w/2 kerosene barrels, \$50; 2-yr-old C128 Commodore computer w/color monitor, external drive, Star NPX printer, 2 joystick 1670 tele. modem w/ lots of game programs, hardly used, \$800. Call Mike, x5485.

## Job Openings

**Some of the advertised positions may already be filled.** The list below includes only new staff and faculty openings and does not represent all jobs available. To get a recorded message describing the complete list, call x5358 or x5359 (TDD).

**RESEARCH TECHNICIAN:** Gallaudet Research Institute  
**TEACHER'S AIDE:** KDES Special Opportunities Program  
**DIRECTOR OF RESIDENCE LIFE:** School of Preparatory Studies